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**DATE:** May 24, 2004  
**FILE NO.:** AMAT/5297/DSM/LOW K/JW  
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**COMPANY:** USPTO  
**FROM:** Keith M. Tackett  
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**ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW?**  YES  NO

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 24, 2004 AND DECLARATION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

**TITLE:** Method for Planarizing Organosilicate Layers  
**U.S. SERIAL NO.:** 09/844,991  
**FILING DATE:** April 27, 2001  
**INVENTOR:** Rivoire, et al.  
**EXAMINER:** Robert A. Rose  
**GROUP ART UNIT:** 3723  
**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 1361

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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MAY 24 2004

**In re Application of:  
Rivoire, et al.**

Serial No.: 09/844,991

Confirmation No.: 1361

Filed: April 27, 2001

**For: Method for Planarizing  
Organosilicate Layers**

**MAIL STOP AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 3723

**Examiner: Robert A. Rose**

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, namely, fax number 703-872-9306 to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.

5/24/04

Date

Kent 2 2

Signature

**BEST RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 24, 2004**

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 24, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 24, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5297/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.